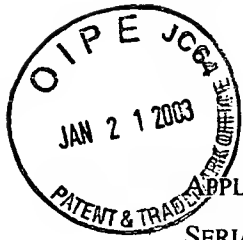


Express Mail Label No.: EV138529064US

Date of Deposit: January 21, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 15966-551 CON-S2 (Cura-51 CON-S2)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/998,966

EXAMINER: O. Chernyshev

FILING DATE: October 31, 2001

ART UNIT: 1646

FOR: Novel Nucleic Acid Sequences Encoding Human Fibroblast Growth Factor-like Polypeptides

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TECH CENTER 1600/2900


Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

1. Response to Office Action mailed December 20, 2002 (1 pg.); and
2. Return Postcard.

This response is due on January 21, 2003 (January 20, 2003 being a Holiday), with no extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-551CON-S2. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 617/542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dated: January 21, 2003

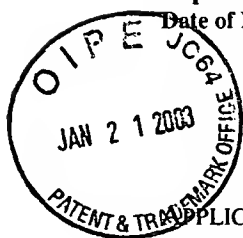

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Date of Deposit: January 21, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 15966-551 CON-S2 (Cura-51 CON-S2)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets et al.
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/998,966 EXAMINER: O. Chernyshev
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 20, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action Dated December 20, 2002, Applicants elect the invention of Group I (claims 1-15, drawn to nucleic acids, vectors, host cells) without traverse.

With no extension of time, this response is due on January 21, 2003 (January 20, 2003 being a Holiday). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 15966-551CON-S2.

Dated: January 21, 2003


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